

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system comprising:
schedule data storage means in which users' schedule data are stored;
~~information service means, including an internet-based search engine, for providing users~~
~~with first related information;~~
related service search means for searching the information service means using said an
internet-based search engine to search, for first related information that relates to the
schedule data stored in the schedule data storage means; ~~and provides the information~~
~~as the first related information, said first related information obtained from an internet~~
~~search based on said user's schedule data using said internet-based search engine; and~~
information service data storage means for storing second related information summarizing a
subject matter of the first related information provided by the information service
means; and
means for acquiring the first related information and outputting the schedule data, the first
related information and the second related information to a user in response to a user
instruction,
~~wherein the related service search means includes means which, in response to users'~~
~~instructions to search related services or to consult schedule data, acquires the first~~
~~related information from information service means and outputs the first related~~
~~information to the users; and~~
~~wherein the related service search means includes a means for searching the information~~
~~service data storage means in response to users' instructions or control; and means for~~
~~outputting to the users, along with the schedule data said first and second related~~
~~information;~~
said first and second related information being other than schedule data of another user.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 1, wherein the information service data storage means includes ~~means for~~ means for storing information relating to an access address and an access procedural information for ~~the an~~ information service means; and ~~for~~ means for connecting to the information service means on the basis of the access address and procedural information that have been retrieved by the related service search means.

4. (Previously Presented) A schedule information system according to Claim 3, which includes means for receiving schedule data related information from an information service means to which a connection has been established, and for outputting the received information along with the schedule data.

5. (Previously Presented) A schedule information system according to Claim 4, which includes billing information storage means for receiving billing information from the connected information service means and for storing billing information for each user.

6. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 1, ~~which~~ comprises further comprising personal information storage means for storing personal information relating to users; wherein the related service search means includes means for using said personal information along with the schedule data to search the information service data storage means.

7. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 6, ~~which~~ includes further comprising user preferences extraction means for extracting information determine, on the basis of schedule data input by a user or information relating to information service means provided by a user, to be of interest to the user, ~~inferred—on the basis of schedule data input by a user or information relating to information service means provided by a user—to be of interest to the user,~~ and for using the extracted information as part of the personal information.

8. (Previously Presented) A schedule information system according to Claim 6, which includes means for acquiring information relating to the personal information by connecting to an information service means found by the related service search means on the basis of the personal information stored in the personal information storage means, and for storing this acquired information in the user schedule data storage means as part of the schedule data.
9. (Previously Presented) A schedule information system according to Claim 1, wherein the information service data storage means is provided with information service data registration means whereby the user can register information from an information service means.
10. (Original) A schedule information system according to Claim 6, which is provided with information service data acquisition means for searching, on the basis of the personal information stored in the personal information storage means, information service means that are in conformity with this personal information; and for storing, in the information service data storage means, information from the searched information service means.
11. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 1, which ~~comprises~~further comprising:
means which, when there is information to be registered as schedule data with the schedule data storage means, requests transmission of the schedule data to the schedule data storage means; and
data transmit/receive means for receiving this schedule data, retrieving information congruent with the received schedule data, and transmitting the acquired information.
12. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 1, which ~~comprises~~further comprising:

display means for presenting the user with information acquired from an information service means;

animated character image generation means for generating animated character images for displaying on this display means; and

means for displaying the animated character images along with the acquired information.

13. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 12, ~~which comprises further comprising:~~

means for selecting a display scenario that is appropriate for the schedule data; and

means which, in accordance with the movement pattern obtained by this display scenario selection means, displays the animated character images and outputs what the character says.

14. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 1, wherein: ~~client terminals are connected to a server via a network; and~~

~~the server contains the schedule data storage means, the related service search means, the information service data storage means, and the means for acquiring and outputting in response to a user instruction are implemented in a server to users information acquired from the information service means.~~

15. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 14, wherein the information service data storage means contains Internet location information as the address information for accessing the an information service means.

16. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~schedule information system comprises~~ is implemented in a terminal connectable to the an information service means via a network; and

said terminal includes the schedule data storage means, the related service search means, the information service data storage means, and the means for acquiring and outputting in response to a user instruction ~~information acquired from the information service means.~~

17. (Original) A schedule information system according to Claim 16, wherein the information service data storage means contains Internet location information as the address information for accessing the information service means.

18. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing computer-readable instructions for configuring a computing device to operate as a schedule information system that comprises:

schedule data storage means in which users' schedule data are stored;

related service search means for using an internet-based search engine to search for first related information that relates to the schedule data stored in the schedule data storage means;

information service data storage means for storing second related information summarizing the first related information; and

means for acquiring the first related information and outputting the schedule data, the first related information and the second related information to a user in response to a user instruction,

said first and second related information being other than schedule data of another user.

in which software has been stored, this software functioning as a schedule information system according to Claim 1, when installed in an information processing unit.